

Amendments to the Drawings

None

REMARKS

[001] The Office Action cites the following art: U.S. Patent Number 6,718,329 to *Selvin, et al* (hereinafter *Selvin*).

[002] Claims 1-21 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 8, and 15 are independent claims. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claims 1, 8, and 15 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as unpatentable over *Selvin*.

[003] Applicant amended Claims 1, 3, 8, 12, 15, and 17 to incorporate the limitations of objected to, but otherwise allowable claims, into the respective parent claims. The limitations of Claim 2 were incorporated into Claim 1. The limitations of Claim 11 were incorporated into Claim 8, and the limitations of Claim 16 were incorporated into Claim 15. Claims 2, 11, and 16 were cancelled. As the amendments simply incorporate the language of the cancelled claims, the amendments are supported by the original specification, and no new matter has been added. In addition, Claim 15 was amended according to the suggestions made by the Examiner to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §101 rejections of non-statutory subject matter.

[004] The Applicant submits the attached amendments and remarks and respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn and that the claims be allowed.

REJECTION OF CLAIM 15 UNDER 35 USC § 101

[005] Claim 15 is rejected under 35 USC § 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter. In the Office Action mailed on April 7, 2006, the Examiner suggested two specific changes to overcome the rejection. Claim 15 incorporates both suggested changes.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1, 8, AND 15 UNDER 35 USC § 102(e)

[006] Claims 1, 8, and 15 are rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as unpatentable over *Selvin*. Applicant incorporates the limitations of objected to Claim 2 into Claim 1. Applicant

incorporates the limitations of objected to Claim 11 into Claim 8. Finally, Applicant incorporates the limitations of objected to Claim 16 into Claim 15. Dependent Claims 3, 12, and 17 were appropriately amended to adjust the dependencies. Claims 2, 11, and 16 are cancelled.

[007] Independent Claims 1, 8, and 15 incorporate all the limitations of objected to Claims 2, 11, and 16 respectively. Since prior Claims 2, 11, and 16 were otherwise allowable except for their dependence from rejected Claims, Applicant submits that Independent Claims 1, 8, and 15 are now allowable. Applicant submits that Claims 3-7, 9-10, 12-14, and 17-21 are now allowable since they were previously allowable and also because they now depend from allowable independent claims.

CONCLUSION

[008] In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that Claims 1, 3-10, 12-15, and 17-21 are in condition for allowance. In the event any questions or issues remain that can be resolved with a phone call, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner initiate a telephone conference with the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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